

## **Metrorail Vehicle Replacement**

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The recommendation for approval to award new heavy rail vehicles was approved by the Board of County Commissioners November 8, 2012. Notice-to-Proceed was issued on December 13, 2012. The car builder is currently executing the second of three design phases. The first design phase was completed in September 2013. During the second design phase, MDT project team has reviewed 6 of 14 system design submittals. Scheduled delivery and acceptance of six (6) vehicles per month will begin the third quarter of 2015. The final 6 vehicles are scheduled to be delivered and accepted during the First quarter of 2018.

## **Security**

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### **1. Visual Intermodal Preparedness and Response (VIPR)**

A key strategic practice for the protection and prevention of mass transit infrastructure and passengers is the introduction of unpredictability into security operations. VIPR teams offer ways to frustrate possible terrorist operations by deploying uniquely designed teams. These teams are highly mobile, possess multiple security capabilities and are adapted to meet specified mission requirements. This flexible method of applying existing security resources in creative ways enhances the probability of detecting terrorist activities and increases the deterrent impact by disrupting terrorist planning.

MDT is a leader in mass transit VIPR details in the South Florida area, having participated in 9 VIPR details in 2009, 49 in 2010, 54 in 2011, and 59 in 2012.

VIPR details are held in cooperation with the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), Federal Air Marshalls, State, County and local law enforcement. During these missions, information is passed out to the traveling public and members of the VIPR teams spread out throughout the system to look for suspicious items, suspicious behavior, interview the riding public and answer questions.

Interspersed during these missions are K-9 units that check areas for explosive material while patrolling Metrorail stations and common areas. TSA "Behavioral Detection Officers" (BDO) check the crowds for suspicious activity and behavior and if something is out of the ordinary, they contact a law enforcement counterpart to conduct a field interview or verify the situation.

In addition to VIPR details, MDT utilizes the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) to conduct high-profile uniform patrols and undercover plain clothes patrols during special events and at other random times throughout the year.

MDT has conducted 136 VIPR details on the MDT system so far this year.

### **2. OPERATION RAIL SAFE Campaign**

Operation RAIL SAFE (Regional Alliance Including Local, State and Federal Efforts), is a national/international, coordinated effort involving heightened station patrols, increased security presence onboard trains, explosives detection canine sweeps, and random behavioral assessment screening.

These campaigns promote and encourage the reporting of suspicious activity to the MDT TRANSIT WATCH line at (305) 375-2700 and have been quite successful for MDT. The conduct of the Operation RAIL SAFE campaign is dependent on the demands of the Operation RAIL SAFE coordinators and the national state of affairs on mass transit. Eleven Operation RAIL Safes' have been conducted on the MDT system so far this year. Additional activities will be scheduled as they are proposed by the Operation RAIL SAFE coordinators.